

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 2, 15, 53-60 and 67 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 1, 3-9, 14, 16-17, 50-52 and 61-66 are pending and under consideration. No new matter is presented in this Amendment.

It is respectfully submitted that the cancellation of claims 2, 15, 53-60 and 67 does not involve a reopening of prosecution and is therefore appropriate for approval and entry in an amendment under 37 CFR 1.312. MPEP 714.16.

Claims 1, 3-9, 14, 16-17, 50-52 and 61-66 are pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is requested.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot. And further, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 503333.

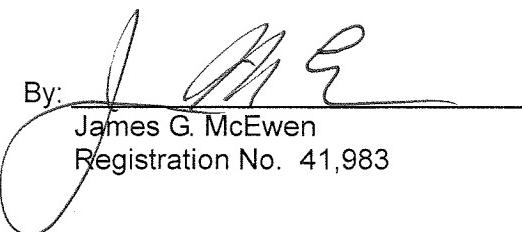
Respectfully submitted,

STEIN, MCEWEN & BUI, LLP

Date: MARCH 31, 2008

1400 Eye St., NW
Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 216-9505
Facsimile: (202) 216-9510

By:


James G. McEwen
Registration No. 41,983